

**Chicago Housing Authority
Board of Commissioners Public Session
December 18, 2012
CHA Central Office – 60 E. Van Buren**

	Name	Question/Comment	Response
1	Pauline Wesley	How can you implement a cost of living increase for social security recipients, only on the South Side with WCDC?	<p>In October 2012 the Social Security Administration indicated that monthly benefits will increase 1.7% in 2013 due to the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA). This increase went into effect February 1, 2013. All public housing residents receiving Social Security (SS) or SSI must receive a new rent calculation due to the increase in income. Public housing agencies are required to factor in COLA when determining SS and SSI annual income.</p> <p>The rent adjustment is applicable for all participants receiving SS or SSI – not solely for participants living in properties managed by WCDC or on the South Side.</p>
2	Evelyn Rodriguez & Christinia De La Rosa	For the past two months we learned that Commissioners are leaving. We want to thank Commissioner Ponce, we look forward to working with the new commissioners.	Thank you for your comment.
3	George Blakemon	<p>To the citizens of Chicago and residents of CHA, I can read, I can think, I would like to let you know that I live to serve, I don't serve to live. Reading this agenda, listening to the members of the Board speak, I decided to read the agenda. It is unacceptable, for the Executive Director to give contracts out. These contracts should always be bid on. I advocate for everything in-house, if you are going to do it out of house, you should put it out to bid. M/W/DBEs mean something.</p> <p>[Bell rings] That bell that you're ringing shows disrespect. I've been heard. Some people will read this agenda, I would like to wish you all of you happy holidays. Read your agenda and you will see something that is evil and wrong.</p>	When the CHA decides it needs the services of an outside vendor, it follows the applicable procurement rules and regulations.

4	Dennis O'Neil	<p>I am with a community organization in the UIC area called Connecting Four Communities. I want to talk about education needs and the changing demographic in the area. The area has been growing in population (by 104%) and is diverse. It has Roosevelt Square and the area is served by a CPS school called Smyth Elementary. The school is 100% black and low-income, but the community is diverse. We have worked with people in our community including all the Principals in the area to advance a plan to develop a new high school. Given the CPS fiscal situation, it is a hurdle. But, access to education is restricted. We would like to see Smyth become a school for the entire community. There have been tremendous improvements with the school. We would like to see a high school built in the Roosevelt Square redevelopment area. We have two architects developing a conceptual plan for that area. I have demographic information that I'll leave with Mr. Woodyard.</p>	<p>Education is an important component in CHA's Plan Forward. The CHA will continue to support the Chicago Public Schools, including Smyth School.</p>
5	Tamika Holt	<p>I would like to congratulate the Commissioners who are retiring. I have a question about the general item number 1, about the IG guidelines. The question was asked by Commissioner Ponce, who does the IG answer to? The answer was the Audit Committee. I would like to know, who does the Audit Committee answer to?</p>	<p>The Audit Committee is held accountable by the full Board of Commissioners.</p>